

MY  
TRANSFORMATIVE  
JUSTICE  
WORKBOOK







THIS WORKBOOK BELONGS  
TO: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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This Workbook was collaboratively created by  
Staff of the **Virginia Anti-Violence Project**  
(VAVP) & the **Virginia Sexual & Domestic**  
**Violence Action Alliance (Action Alliance)**

after 6+ months of conversations and a desire to  
engage our communities around Transformative  
Justice and how we both respond to and  
prevent violence outside of state-based systems  
that target and criminalize people of color (particularly  
black people + communities), queer + trans people, poor  
folks, immigrants + undocumented communities, disabled  
folks, and other marginalized communities.

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This workbook was first used at a community  
event held on May 4, 2019 in Richmond, VA at  
Six points Innovation center. The event included a  
panel with organizers, activists, educators and mental  
health service providers and was followed by a  
Zine-making session.

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We hope this workbook creates space for reflection  
and inspires hard and critical conversations with people  
in your community and further learning! Both **VAVP**  
& the **Action Alliance** are here to support, and  
We are excited to continue learning and growing  
with you!

1



# ??? What Do You Think ???

Generation 5 writes,

"Transformative Justice [is] a liberatory approach to violence... [which] seeks safety and accountability without relying on alienation, punishment, or State or systematic violence, including incarceration or policing."

The **YOUNG WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PROJECT** defines Transformative Justice as rooted in the "believe that systems can and do cause harm in our lives, specifically harm to black and brown people, (including state systems and social services). As a result TJ works to create solutions outside of these systems."

How would you  
DEFINE VIOLENCE?

What does Transformative  
Justice (TJ) mean To You?  
Have you seen TJ in your  
community? How — or not?



What is the DIFFERENCE between  
PUNISHMENT and ACCOUNTABILITY?  
What are ways to support accountability  
after folks (or systems) do harm  
without engaging criminal & legal systems?



How does transgender,  
lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
and queer liberation  
intersect with Transformative  
Justice?





# OFFERING

"People who experience violence with immediate safety & long term healing & reparations, while holding people who commit violence accountable within and by their communities.

This accountability includes stopping abuse immediately, making a commitment to not engage in future abuse, and offering reparations for past abuse."

- GEN 5

HOW DOES THAT LOOK IN A SUSTAINABLE WAY?!

THE GOAL OF TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE IS

WITH THIS IN MIND, HOW CAN COMMUNITIES SUPPORT FOLKS WHO HAVE DONE HARM TO CHANGE BEHAVIOR, WHILE FOLKS WHO HAVE BEEN HARMED IN THEIR HEALING?

Danielle Sered from Common Justice Says...

"NO ONE ENTERS VIOLENCE FOR THE FIRST TIME BY COMMITTING IT"



# ACCOUNT

# ABILITY

≧ HOW DO YOU DEFINE IT? ≦  
≧ WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE FOR YOU? ≦

MEASURING

The GAP

Closness

Distance

1  
VALUES

2  
ACTIONS

BETWEEN





# Harm



Hurt, Pain, Trauma  
Inflicted with intention

To cause Hurt,  
Injury or  
Damage to.

# Reduction

Subtract-  
minus-  
take away <

Bandaid  
↓



To make less  
in size amount  
or impact...



# REFLEC

WHAT DO I WANT WHEN SOMEONE HAS  
HARMED ME?



WHAT DO I WANT WHEN I  
HAVE HARMED SOMEONE?


# TIONS

WHERE/WHO DO I GO TO FOR SUPPORT?

WHAT RESOURCES DOES MY COMMUNITY  
HAVE FOR SUPPORT?

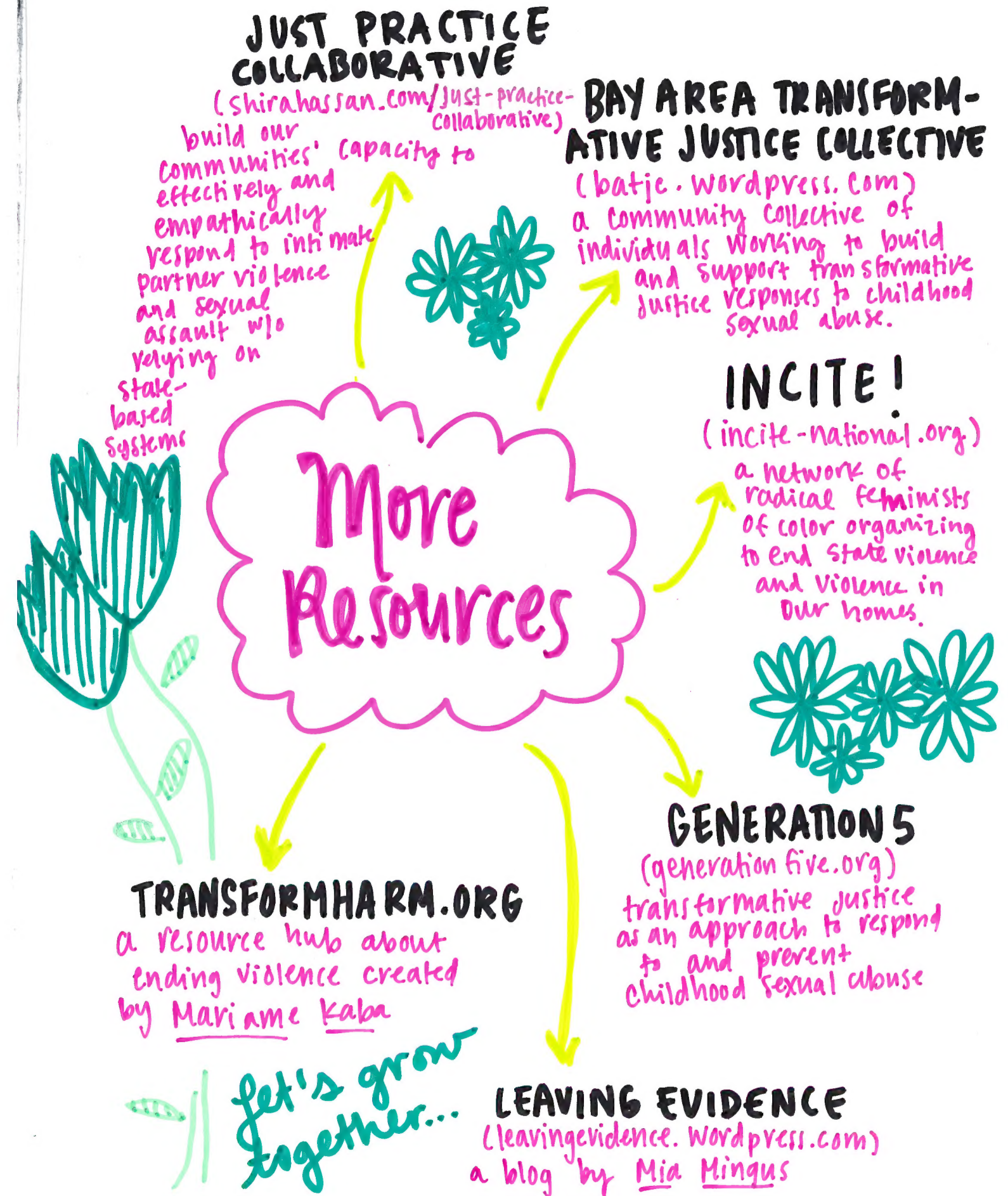


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This resource was created in 2019 by  
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Ha Tran & Laura Chow Reeve of the  
Virginia Anti-Violence Project (VAVP) &  
the Virginia Sexual & Domestic Violence  
Action Alliance (VSDVAA) for a  
collaborative Transformative Justice  
event ♥